



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

HUDSON RIVER HABITAT RESTORATION

Hudson River, NY

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: This study encompasses the drainage basin of the Hudson River Channel federal navigation project which extends from George Washington Bridge north for approximately 145 miles to the Troy Lock and Dam. In this study area the Hudson River flows from north to south draining an approximately 4800 square mile basin. It changes in character from a river valley in its northern reach to an estuary in the southern portions. The river is tidal for the entire length of the project study area. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been active in the study area since 1832.

During the Reconnaissance Phase of the study in 1994 and 1995, 14 high priority sites for potential Habitat Restoration were identified in the Hudson River Ecosystem. These sites were recommended for continued study in a Feasibility Phase.

AUTHORIZATION: Study of the Hudson River is authorized by Section 216 of the Harbor and River and Flood Control Act of 1970 which allows the review of the operation of completed projects, when found advisable, due to significantly changed physical or economic conditions. A Congressional add-on in 1994 provided funding for a Environmental Habitat Restoration Reconnaissance Study. The reconnaissance report was completed in Feb 1995. The Feasibility phase began in May 1996 after the Feasibility Cost Share Agreement was signed in April. Section 551 of the 1996 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA 96) directed the Secretary of the Army to expedite feasibility studies for the Hudson River and carry out not fewer than four projects for habitat restoration; in accordance with technical merits and a non-federal cost share of 25%.

STATUS: The Feasibility Phase will be conducted in 4 consecutive interim studies to allow the sponsor to meet the cost share requirements and allow successive interims to take advantage of design successes of the proceeding interims. The Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) and the Project Study Plan (PSP) were signed by the non-federal sponsors, NYSDEC and NYS DOS, in April 1996. Feasibility Study Interim # 1 was initiated in May 96. This interim studies 4 sites; Manitou Marsh, Schodack -Houghtaling Island, Mill Creek Wetlands and Hudson South Bay. Restoration techniques under consideration include low marsh / SAV creation and restoration, hydrology modifications and invasive species control. Later interims will also study shellfish bed restoration and fish passages. Continue feasibility study for interim #1.

PROJECT COST:	<u>Recon</u>	<u>Total Feas Cost</u>
Estimated Federal Cost	\$375,000	\$2,024,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	0	\$2,024,000
Total	\$375,000	\$4,048,000

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